

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) ~~An apparatus~~ A home network system for restoring network information ~~for a home network system, the system comprising:~~

~~at least one slave having means for communicating with an external appliances for~~
~~outputting operational state information indicative of at least one operation state of said at least~~
~~one slave, the at least one operation state being variable after powering said at least one slave;~~
~~and~~

~~a master having means for communicating with the slave, checking a state of the~~
~~slave, storing state information of the slave, and providing the state information to the slave~~
~~when the slave is reset; and a home network unit connecting the communication means of the~~
~~master and the slave to form a network of the master and the slave~~ for periodically receiving the
operation state information output from said at least one slave to determine a current operation
state of said at least one slave and to determine whether said at least one slave has been reset,
said master having a non-volatile memory in which the operation state information of said at
least one slave is stored and transmitting to said at least one slave the stored operation state
information if the master determines that said at least one slave has been reset.

2-3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) The ~~apparatus~~ system of claim 1, wherein ~~the home network unit includes power-line communication modems for enabling the communication means of the master and the slave to communicate with each other through power lines if power to said at least one slave is interrupted, said at least one slave is set to an operating state according to the received operation state information and outputs operational state information indicative of the set operating state.~~

5. (Currently Amended) The ~~apparatus~~ system of claim 1, wherein the ~~communication means of the slave is said at least one slave is a home appliance provided with an RS-232C type communication module, and the communication means of the master includes a universal asynchronous transmitter/receiver and an RS-232C type communication module for communicating with said master via power-line communication modems connected to a set of power lines.~~

6. (Currently Amended) A method of restoring network information ~~for~~in a home network system including at least one slave communicating with a master having a non-volatile memory, the method comprising the steps of:

outputting, from at least one slave, operational state information indicative of at least one operation state of the at least one slave, the at least one operation state being variable after powering the at least one slave;

periodically checking a state of at least one slave connected by a network receiving at the master, the operation state information output from the at least one slave to determine a current operation state of the at least one slave and to determine whether the at least one slave has been reset;

storing, in the non-volatile memory, the operation state information of the at least one slave; checking whether the slave is reset; and

transmitting the stored operation state information ~~of~~ from the master to the at least one slave when the if it is determined that the at least one slave is has been reset.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein ~~the master and the slaves are connected together by a network using power lines~~ said master is a home appliance provided with a universal asynchronous transmitter/receiver and an RS-232C type communication module for communicating with said at least one slave via power-line communication modems connected to a set of power lines.

9. (New) A television receiver serving as a master device for restoring network information in a home network system including at least one slave communicating with the master device, the television receiver comprising:

a communication module, connected to the at least one slave, for periodically receiving the operation state information from the at least one slave;

memory for storing the operation state information of the at least one slave; and

a CPU for periodically checking a current operation state of the at least one slave to determine whether the at least one slave has been reset and for transmitting the stored operation state information to the at least one slave, if it is determined that the at least one slave has been reset.

10. (New) The television receiver of claim 9, wherein the communication module is an RS-232C type communication module for communicating with the at least one slave via power-line communication modems connected to a set of power lines.